

BLM News

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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BLM SEEKS EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Local equipment and operators are still needed during emergencies such as last week's fires in Elko County.

"We had an urgent need for bull dozers, lowboys, and operators last week during the four large fires which threatened communities and burned 110,000 acres in our area," said BLM Elko Fire Management Officer Joe Freeland. "We prefer to contract locally rather than pull equipment in from out of the area or out of state. At one point last week, we were told the closest approved dozers would have to come from Colorado."

"The key to using local equipment is that it needs to be signed up ahead of time and if it's not signed up, it's very difficult to use. What we do is get equipment pre-approved with Emergency Equipment Rental Agreements. The pre-approval process is free and it takes just a couple of hours to get them done. If you are interested in this type of work, don't delay or wait for smoke, call us now," Freeland added.

"Right now we have a critical need for fuel tenders, bull dozers, lowboys, water tenders and motor graders. All equipment will be subject to a safety inspection before actual use, and all contractors and operators will receive a comprehensive safety briefing before equipment is used in an actual fire line situation," Freeland concluded.

Individuals or companies interested in renting to the BLM on a call-when-needed basis and subject to equipment availability should contact Jacky Anderson at the BLM Elko Field Office, 3900 East Idaho Street, Elko, NV 89801, or call (775) 753-0200.

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